

Name \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

# Home-School Connection #23

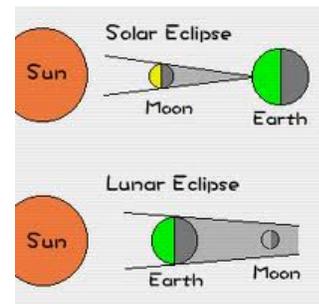
## 3/26/15

WRITE AT LEAST ONE DISCUSSION QUESTION for each topic.

### **VERNAL EQUINOX, FULL MOON AND SOLAR ECLIPSE:**

On the first day of spring, it wasn't only the Vernal Equinox, it was a full moon and a solar eclipse. We spent time discussing:

- Do full moons have an impact on how people behave? (Ms. Stark thinks it does, but she can't prove it)
- We reviewed what a solar and lunar eclipse are. I (Ms. S) showed you some movies about it (remember the man from India?). Can you demonstrate what the sun, moon and earth do during a solar and lunar eclipse? Try using some round objects in your home to review it.
- We went outside to measure our shadows. Can you explain why the shadows were around the same size as the fall equinox shadows based on what you know about the tilt and rotation of the earth? Why were the winter solstice shadows longer? (You didn't get to measure them due to the snowstorms at that time, but trust me they are a lot longer). Why is that? We will measure our summer solstice shadows.



**SPEAKING OF LIGHT:** We are continuing to investigate light and color. This week we began to find out about the visible spectrum of light - ROY-G-BIV. Explain what those letters stand for. We found out that each of the 7 colors we see on the rainbow are made up of waves and particles. Each of the waves go at a different speed. Red is longest. Blue is shortest. You found out that there are waves of color you can't see. For example infrared and ultraviolet. I have put some excellent links on our website to help you understand this more. What questions do you have about color?

**SPRING LIGHT- SPRING POEMS:** It is spring. The snow is melting, birds are back and singing. You can see some flowers popping up. What other signs of spring have you seen? Spring makes it a great time to read and write poetry. Please show your parents the spring poems. Explain the two voice poem we tried. Read them out loud. Discuss your favorites. Get a signature saying you read them.

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### YOU DID IT! ELA MCAS IS DONE:

You practiced. You worked hard. You read and wrote a lot, and answered many multiple choice and open response questions. We tried to boost your spirits with a bit of Simon Says, stretching, sugarless gum, lollipops, and no homework. You stayed focused, you didn't complain, you were upbeat and flexible even after working for so long. There are so many reasons to feel good about what you accomplished. So, how was it? Do you remember any of the passages? If you were worried, what helped you feel better? If you weren't worried, what do you think helped you?



**MY WORLD HISTORY BOOK:** You read short chapters from our new Pearson textbooks. You read about the Boston Massacre, Letters by Express, The Boston Tea Party, Patrick Henry and Paul Revere's Ride. We will be going deeper into each of these items but for now, please try and describe what you did find out about each of these events. If you have trouble, remembering, make note of this and go back into the text book to remind yourself. Would you have been a Patriot, a Loyalist or neutral? Say why. Ask your parents what they might have been and why. What do you think you will be for your colonial persona?

**OTHER:** Please pick at least two items from the list.  
Write at least one thought provoking question for each topic.

- Colonial Family Research and Posters
- River table progress
- Decimals and Target Game
- Specials: Music, Art, PE, COB, Chinese:
- OTHER?

Due: Monday: We made a time to do this on: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature & Comments

Student rating(1-5)Please say why and which topics lead to the most in-depth discussions.